

**Maryland Cancer Registry**  
**Quarterly Reporters Teleconference**  
July 8, 2008

**Attendance:**

DHMH - D. Dwyer, Jennifer Hayes, Afaq Ahmad, Delores Rich

Westat - S. Peace, D. Haegele, D. Calicutt, S. Sherman-VanDeventer, T. Lewis, P. Weeks-Coulthurst, V. Ralda

**Reporters and Registrars**

21<sup>st</sup> Century Oncology – Bel Air, Greenbelt, Atlantic, Riverside

Baltimore Washington Medical Center

Carroll County General Hospital

Civista Medical Center

Doctors Community Hospital

Doctors Regional Cancer Center

Frederick Memorial Hospital

Good Samaritan Hospital

Harbor Hospital Center

Holy Cross Hospital

Howard County General Hospital

Johns Hopkins Bay View Medical Center

Malcolm Grove Hospital

Union Hospital of Cecil County

Washington Adventist Hospital

**1. Welcome and Announcements**

- D. Dwyer called roll and welcomed all participants.
- D. Dwyer reviewed agenda and materials.
- D. Dwyer reviewed materials currently available on the DHMH Website and reminded reporters the site is a resource to help answer reporting question <http://www.fha.state.md.us/cancer/registry>. Minutes from the Reporters Teleconferences are now posted at the Web site.

**2. Update: Westat MCR QA/DM - S. Peace reported the Westat MCR QA/DM updates.**

- June 7, 2008 was the deadline for submission of the 2006 Medical Record Disease Indices from all Hospital and Ambulatory Care Facilities.
- June 30, 2008 was the deadline for submission of all cases diagnosed in 2007.
- July 15, 2008 is the deadline for hospitals to verify follow-back on potentially unreported 2006 hospital cancer deaths.
- Reporters can expect quarterly reports on facility submissions, progress toward completion of case submission for each annual reporting year, and confirmation of successful/unsuccessful submission of cases. Reporters can also expect end-of-month data quality reports from the Westat MCR QA/DM team with summary and detailed edit failure results from standard electronic data edits and a report of the visual editing review of reported data comparing the facility-submitted text to assigned codes for cases undergoing data quality review each month. MCR is dealing with a backlog of cases at the present time, but expects that in the future these reports will be sent back to reporters in a timelier manner that will be closer to the submission date than is currently possible.
- Reporters were informed that the increase in cases submitted with unknown race codes is becoming a problem. Registrars and reporters are being asked to pay special attention when

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reporting this information. Race is required for national call for data and is used to rate and rank central cancer registry cases completeness. No more than 5% of all cases can be submitted in any year with race coded as unknown. These require additional follow-back to reporting facilities in an attempt to identify race when missing from the record. It may also involve contacting individual physicians to validate race in many case. Race is also a key factor for statistical analysis and the absence of information on race can limit results from case matching and record consolidation.

- MCR QA/DM is planning to visit up to 10 facilities this summer to conduct on-site re-casefinding (completeness) and re-abstracting (data quality) audits. Facilities will be notified in advance with instructions regarding preparations for the site visit and any local requirements necessary to accommodate the MCR QA/DM on-site review team.
- MCR Technical Help Line phone number, fax number, and e-mail address was provided and reporters were reminded to contact their MCR field representative contact when they have questions.

**3. Update: Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Maryland Cancer Registry**

- D. Dwyer announced five upcoming NAACCR webinars:
- 7/10/08 – 9am-1pm – Hospital Webinar - Topic: **Abstracting Upper Gastrointestinal Tract Cancer Incidence and Treatment Data** – Contact Delores Rich at DHMH in Baltimore or Pat Weeks-Coulthurst at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring to participate in this webinar.
- 7/17/08 – 9am-1pm – Central Registry Webinar – Topic: **Upper Gastrointestinal Tract Cancer Surveillance Data Collection** - Contact Delores Rich at DHMH in Baltimore or Steven Peace at Westat in to participate in this webinar.
- 08/21/08 – 9am-1pm – Central Registry Webinar - Topic: **Syntactic and Semantic Interoperability Project**– Contact Delores Rich at DHMH in Baltimore or Steven Peace at Westat in Rockville to participate in this webinar.
- 09/11/08 – 9am-1pm – Hospital Webinar - Topic: **Abstracting Other Digestive System Cancer Incidence and Treatment Data**– Contact Delores Rich at DHMH in Baltimore or Pat Weeks-Coulthurst at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring to participate in this webinar.
- 09/18/08 – 9am-1pm – Central Registry Webinar - Topic: **Death Clearance Procedures**– Contact Delores Rich at DHMH in Baltimore or Steven Peace at Westat in Rockville to participate in this webinar.
- **Future NAACCR Webinars and 2008-2009 NAACCR Webinar Series plans** – NAACCR will be streamlining the Webinar series for the 2008-2009 series beginning in October 2008. The hospital and central registry orientation for the Webinars will alternate and the duration will be reduced to 3 hours. Due to budget constraints next year DHMH will host only one Webinar site. The location is yet to be determined. An attachment was provided with dates and topics in the upcoming series.

**4. Update Tumor Registrars Association of Maryland (TRAM)**

- John McLaughlin, President of TRAM, was not available to provide an update. The next TRAM

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Meeting will be Wednesday September 17, 2008 at Good Samaritan Hospital in Baltimore. Please note this is a Wednesday meeting, not the usual Friday meeting.

**5. Change Record/Update Record Discussion**

- S. Peace noted that there are no current capabilities for accepting change or update records at the Maryland Cancer Registry. This would require re-tooling of the software currently used by MCR. There are no immediate plans to enhance the capabilities. Reporters and abstractors were asked to contact their MCR field representative by phone or by fax if there are records that require updating or changes since this privileged patient information should not be sent via email.

**6. Class of Case and MCR Reporting Requirements**

- S. Peace presented, “Assigning Class of Case and MCR Case Reporting Requirements”. He reviewed the definitions and coding guidelines for assigning class of case and described the relationship of the class of case to the MCR case reporting guidelines. (See attached)

**7. Next Teleconference**

- The next Reporters Teleconference will be held October 21, 2008 from 9:30am-11am.